

Sheriff Gary Del Re



Undersheriff Gary Stryker

PRESS RELEASE

Lake County Sheriff's Office • 25 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue • Waukegan, Illinois 60085

For Immediate Release

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SHERIFF'S OFFICE MAKES GAMBLING ARRESTS

WAUKEGAN, IL. – Investigators from the Lake County Sheriff's Office, Lindenhurst Police Department and the Round Lake Police Department served search warrants on four Lake County businesses early today. The warrants and subsequent arrests ended a month long investigation into the sales of illegal pull tab cards from these locations.

The targeted businesses were as follows: Ma and Pa's Grocery, 37737 Green Bay Road, Waukegan, IL; Stop N Save, 38473 N. Sheridan Road, Beach Park, IL; Grass Lake Grocery, 2450 E. Grass Lake Road, Lindenhurst, IL; and Janetta's Place, 259 N. Cedar Lake Road, Round Lake, IL.

Investigators stated the businesses sold the pull-tab cards, and winning ticket holders were paid money from the business if they bought a winning ticket. Investigators stated these pull-tab cards with winnings being cash pay outs are considered games of chance and therefore illegal gambling in the State of Illinois. Investigators stated these games of chance are only legal for non-profit organizations and the activity must be licensed. Furthermore, the cards for these non-profit organizations must be bought through designated distributors in Illinois.

All four search warrants were executed this morning shortly after 11:00 AM. Ticket vending machines containing an unknown amount of unsold tickets and cash as well as paid out winning tickets were seized from Ma and Pa's Grocery, Stop N Save and the Grass Lake Grocery. Seized from Janetta's Place were a large amount of unsold pull tabs, strip cards, NASCAR strip cards, paid out winning pull tab cards and \$150.00 United States Currency.

One person from each business was arrested and charged with one count of Gambling, a Class A

Misdemeanor. Dinakant Patel, 45 years old, of 644 Stewart Court, Gurnee, IL was arrested at Ma and Pa's Grocery. Jignesh Patel, 42 years of age, of 366 Fairfax Lane, Grayslake, IL was arrested at Stop N Save. Nileshkumar Patel, 23 years of age, of 252 Dittmer Lane, Lindenhurst, IL was arrested at Grass Lake Grocery. William Nicholson, 65 years of age, of 259 N. Cedar Lake Road, Round Lake, IL was arrested at Janetta's Place.

Investigators stated they are aggressively pursuing other leads they have received in regards to gambling at other businesses in Lake County.